

3738

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Docket No. HRT-0293

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Stevens et al.
 Serial No. : 10/099,690 Art Unit : 3738
 Filed : March 15, 2002 Examiner :
 Title : Method and Apparatus for Thoracoscopic Intracardiac Procedures

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June 10, 2002

(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment supersedes the Preliminary Amendment dated March 15, 2002 which accompanied the Application submitted that date.

In the Claims:

Please cancel, claims 1-37 and add claims 38- 46, as follows:

1. 38. A method of forming a lesion in heart tissue of a patient, comprising:
- providing an electrophysiological ablating device comprising at least one electrode;
 - creating an opening in a patient's chest, the opening passing through the chest wall and into the patient's thoracic cavity;
 - passing the electrode through the opening;
 - positioning the electrode adjacent to heart tissue; and

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